

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 00-873-I (500/011))

IN THE APPLICATION OF:)	
)	
Thompson <i>et al.</i>)	
)	
Serial No. 10/715,285)	Examiner: Zara, Jane J.
)	
Filed: November 17, 2003)	Group Art Unit: 1635
)	
Title Chemically Modified Double)	Confirmation No: 5200
Stranded Nucleic Acid Molecules)	
)	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION,
MAILED OCTOBER 19, 2006

MAIL STOP: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks made in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 19, 2006. A petition for extension of time for three (3) months is included herewith and accordingly a response is now considered timely filed on April 19, 2007. Further, Applicants submit concurrently herewith, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. The fees for both the Extension of Time and RCE have been paid during the electronic filing process.

It is believed that no other fee is due in connection with this filing; however, if any such fee is due the Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account number 13-2490.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.